

ply a relictual strategy from a coevolutionary process in which the early ancestors of this tribe of beetles were cucurbit specialists and used the compounds to recognize their hosts. An opposing hypothesis considers the defensive nature of the compounds, with their acquisition giving the beetles protection from invertebrate and vertebrate predators. Dr. Tallamy's research looks at many angles, including investigating the genetic basis of the compound's attraction through crossing sensitive and insensitive individuals, testing predator responses, and examining aposomatic and crypsis coloration. His view is that the evidence at present supports the scenario that adults of this tribe of beetles were first exposed to the compounds as pollen feeders, using them for defense, and did not evolve around the larval feeding habits of cucumber beetles.

There were numerous entomological observations presented at the meeting. Due to the continuing mild weather, President Joseph Sheldon noted the co-occurrence of calling by "winter" birds and "summer" katydids in his yard, and Harold White observed several weeks previous while at 3000 ft in the Shenandoah Mountains that walking sticks and tree crickets were still present even though the trees had dropped their leaves. Ken Frank noted that a recent consumer magazine had rated .5% permethrin more effective than DEET against deer ticks and asked for feedback during the next field season. Roger Fuester remarked on newspaper reports that due to successful IPM programs in commercial table grapes some black widow spiders have been reported in bunches of grapes purchased in stores. Barbara Kirschenstein recounted a recent live trapping of a deer mouse with three emerging bot fly larvae in Allegheny National Forest, prompting Curt Sabrosky to note that he had heard of a deer mouse with 7 *Cuterebra* larvae under the mouth, preventing any feeding by the rodent. Sue Frank made mention of a recent newspaper article concerning Daniel Otte and recent memoirs written by George Poinar and Edward O. Wilson. Mildred Morgan exhibited several photos of her Cape May Point garden during the height of the Monarch Butterfly migration around Labor Day. Approximately 25 members and guests were present.

Jon Gelhaus,
Corresponding Secretary

SOCIETY MEETING OF FEBRUARY 22, 1995

ENTOMOLOGICAL TREASURES OF THE ACADEMY

Ms. Carol Spawn, Dr. Jon Gelhaus
Academy of Natural Sciences

The histories of the American Entomological Society and of the Academy of Natural Sciences have been closely linked, commencing with the first meeting of AES in its' new quarters at the Academy in February 1876 (Boyd, 1984, Ent. News 95:131-136). It is only fitting then, that on a February evening, 119 years later, the American Entomological Society and the Friends of the Academy Library met together for a delightful evening examining the entomological history and treasures from the archives and collections of the Academy and AES.

As noted by Carol Spawn, retired Librarian of the Academy, and now the Academy's Archivist, archives constitute the "preservation of non-current records of an organization that are of continuing value." Ms. Spawn selected a variety of archival materials for display, including the bound Society minutes from 1859-1981, the proposal of membership for Lucy Say (Thomas Say's widow), early financial records from as far back as 1859 and the first book of meeting minutes noting, for example, the election of Henry Ulke as a regular member and Baron Osten Sacken as a corresponding member. Beautiful archival items included an album of the only insect paintings created by the 17th century flower painter Alexander Marshall, and P. A. Latreille's personal, two

volume copy of the plates he created for *Encyclopedie Methodique, Insectes*, with his annotations and original drawings. The entomological library has always been a primary interest of the Society, starting with the first meeting in which two books were presented to the Society. By 1867 over 2000 items were in the AES library managed by the first librarian! Although AES has housed its library in the Academy building since 1875, the remarkable agreement guiding the library today was brought about through the guidance of Venia Phillips, librarian at the Academy commencing in 1944, who had a Ph.D. in entomology from Cornell. Today, while the Society retains title, and through its endowments continues to acquire journals and books and bind materials, the Academy catalogs, shelves and makes accessible all the wonderful items in the library and archives.

Jon Gelhaus, Academy curator, exhibited 12 of the nearly 100 Peale butterfly boxes from the Entomology Collection at the Academy. This collection, dating from the 1820's, was developed by Titian R. Peale II (1799-1885), the youngest son of Charles Wilson Peale, and reflected his interests in natural history, scientific illustration and the development of science in a young United States. The boxes were designed to prevent damage to insect specimens by museum beetles and yet allow observation of the specimen from above and below, and the appearance of the specimens some 160 years later confirms the success of his design. Boxes shown at the meeting held specimens from all over the world including some from Peale's explorations in Surinam and Brazil, butterflies and moths from a then more rural Philadelphia and the oldest North American butterfly type described by a North American entomologist (Thomas Say). This latter specimen was illustrated by Peale for Say and then incorporated in Peale's collection.

There were numerous entomological observations presented at the meeting. Dr. Howard Wood, the Friend's President, showed photographic slides of several *Dendrobium* orchid flowers, and solicited any ideas of pollinators from the entomologists. He noted that although the pollinators of many *Dendrobium* species are known or can be surmised by flower morphology, other species have flower characteristics which don't match models for butterfly, moth, bee or bird pollination. Other observations included the early termite swarming noted by Dr. Susan Whitney at Newark, DE, observations by Dale Schweitzer of several species of butterflies and dragonflies in December and January in South Jersey and the incongruity of activity of winter stone flies and box elder bugs during a recent field trip by Joe Sheldon. Mildred Morgan showed a calendar which featured a photo of her Cape May Point garden during the Monarch Butterfly migration. Notice was also made of the newest Academy exhibit on butterflies, which includes a walk-in garden with live butterflies. It was also noted that AES had purchased two chairs for the Library reading room, to complement a Society coffee table which houses the sidewalk stone from the former AES building at 13th and Rodman Streets.

Elections of officers were held. The following individuals were unanimously elected to two year offices by the membership present.

Joseph Sheldon	President
Jon Gelhaus	Vice President
R. Tommy Allen	Corresponding Secretary
Dale Schweitzer	Recording Secretary
Howard Boyd	Treasurer

Approximately 50 members and guests were present.

Jon Gelhaus,
Corresponding Secretary